

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/973,884

Examiner

Raj Jain

Applicant(s)

CHAKRAVORTY, SHAM

Art Unit

2664

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/12/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Alex Yampolsky on November 17, 2005.

Replace claims 1 and 18 with following amended claims 1 and 18;

1. (Currently Amended) A method of switching digital information packets between network nodes, including the steps of:

forming a digital Internet Protocol (IP) information packet having an IP header including a first portion allocated for service-related fields and a second portion allocated for IP address fields; the second portion comprising at least one of the following fields:

a Packet Number field for indicating whether the packet is the first packet in a chain of packets, or a generic packet for a specific purpose;

at least one virtual connection identifier;

a Quality of Service (QoS) field for identifying parameters of Quality of Service;

a management field containing a management message; and

a security field for indicating security parameters for providing security of packet transmission; and
processing information contained in the IP header to provide switching of the IP information packet.

18. (Currently Amended) A communications system comprising:

a packet identification ~~switching~~ mechanism for identifying ~~switching~~ a digital IP information packet having an IP header including a first portion allocated for service-related fields and a second portion allocated for IP address fields, the second portion having a virtual connection identifier, and

a path selecting mechanism for by selecting paths suitable for digital information carried by the packet, based on ~~[[a]]~~ the virtual connection identifier ~~arranged in the second portion of the IP header.~~

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1, 9, and 18, are allowed. The prior art discloses an communications network with packet data passed between network nodes, the packets consisting of Ip packets with an header field and a data field.

The prior art however fails to disclose an Internet Protocol (IP) information packet having an IP header including a first portion allocated for service-related fields

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and a second portion allocated for IP address fields and processing the information contained in the IP header to provide switching of the IP information packet.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

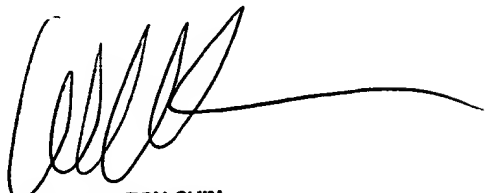
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raj Jain whose telephone number is 571-272-3145. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wellington Chin can be reached on 571-272-3134. The fax number for the organization where this application is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2600.

RJ
November 17, 2005



WELLINGTON CHIN
SENIOR PATENT EXAMINER